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## MESSAGE:

**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE****Serial No. 10/042,195**

Per the request of Examiner Thu Nguyen (AU 3661) attached is a copy of Applicant's Reply dated December 31, 2003, along with a copy of the stamped postcard indicating receipt by the USPTO on that date. According to the Examiner, the original filing of the Reply does not appear in the USPTO electronic systems.

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**  
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Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the following:

Kouichi AKABORI et al.

Serial No.: 10/042,195

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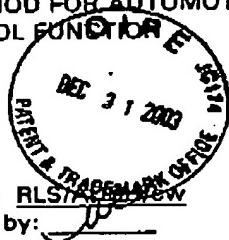
For: ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR AUTOMOTIVE  
VEHICLE WITH INTER-VEHICLE DISTANCE CONTROL FUNCTION

Reply Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116

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